Scoping Studies Overview and Summary of Resources

What is a Scoping Study?
A form of knowledge synthesis that addresses an exploratory research question aimed at mapping key concepts, types of evidence, and gaps in research related to an emerging field by systematically and iteratively searching, selecting, summarizing and synthesizing existing knowledge.

When would you do a Scoping Study?
To examine the extent, range and nature of research activity.
To examine a range of study designs from published and grey literature.
To determine the value of conducting a systematic review.
To synthesize and disseminate research findings.
To identify gaps in research.

Next Steps for Advancing Scoping Study Methodology
Establishing a universal definition and terminology that incorporates key characteristics
Establishing a taxonomy to place scoping studies among other forms of synthesis.
Establishing reporting guidelines

For More Information - Scoping Resources
Arksey & O’Malley, 2005 - Scoping Studies Framework
Levac et al 2010 - Advancing the Methodology
Colquhoun et al 2014 - Scoping Reviews: Time for Clarity
Peters et al 2015 - Methodology for Scoping Reviews (Briggs Institute)
Tricco et al 2016 - Scoping Review on the Conduct and Reporting of Scoping Reviews
Pham et al 2014 - Scoping Review of Scoping Reviews
O’Brien et al 2016 - Web-based Survey and Consultation on Scoping Study Terminology, Definition and Methodological Steps

Scoping Meeting
In June 2015 we held a multi-stakeholder consultation with 48 clinicians, academics, graduate students and representatives from the community in Canada, USA, and the UK. For more information:
http://bit.ly/1QHgBnr

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